

Amendment(s) to the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A rotatively operating tool for manipulating a rotatively operated member having a pair of opposed engaging surfaces located on an operated portion thereof, said tool rotatively operating the rotatively operated member having an operated portion provided with by acting against said opposed engaging surfaces forming a pair at a distance of 180° in a circumferential direction at said operated portion, and comprising,

a lever integrally provided with a hook-shaped head having, at a tip end thereof, an upper jaw capable of being brought into engagement with one of the pair of the opposed engaging surfaces of the operated portion of said rotatively operated member, and

a handle which is connected to an intermediate portion of said lever, said handle provided at a tip end thereof with a lower jaw capable of being brought into engagement with the other of the pair of the opposed engaging surfaces of the operated portion of said rotatively operated member, and is said handle grasped at a base end thereof and turned by an operator,

wherein said lever is connected at an intermediate portion thereof to said handle tool is adapted for turning movement movements in directions in which that result in the upper jaw is being moved toward and away from the lower jaw, so respectively, such

that when after the upper jaw at the tip end of the lever is brought into engagement with one of the pair of opposed engaging surfaces of the operated portion of said rotatively operated member and said handle is turned relative to said lever in the a first direction, in which said lower jaw is moved toward said upper jaw, said lower jaw protrudes toward said upper jaw to abut against the other of the pair of opposed engaging surfaces, whereby the operated portion of said rotatively operated member is clamped between said lower jaw and said upper jaw, and when said handle is turned in an opposite direction, said lower jaw is moved away from the other of the pair of opposed engaging surfaces and said handle is brought into abutment against a stopper face formed on said lever, whereby whereafter said lever is turned along with said handle.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A rotatively operating tool ~~for a rotatively operated member having a pair of engaging surfaces~~, according to claim 1, further including comprising a spring mounted between said handle and said lever for biasing said lever to turn said lever in a direction of abutment of said handle against the stopper face of said lever.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A rotatively operating tool ~~for a rotatively operated member having a pair of engaging surfaces~~, according to claim 2, wherein said spring is in the form of plate made of an elastic material and is mounted between an end of the lever opposite from the head and an intermediate portion of the handle.

Claim 4 (new): A rotatively operating tool according to claim 2, wherein said spring is formed from a hollow elastic hose that has been at least partially flattened.

Claim 5 (new): A rotatively operating tool according to claim 2, wherein said spring is a leaf spring made of a metallic material.

Claim 6 (new): A rotatively operating tool according to claim 2, wherein by simultaneously grasping both a lower end of said lever and said handle, said biasing caused by said spring is overcome and said lever is instead moved toward said handle such that said lower jaw is moved toward said upper jaw to abut against the other of the pair of opposed engaging surfaces, whereby the operated portion of said rotatively operated member is clamped between said lower jaw and said upper jaw and may be rotated in either a clockwise or counterclockwise direction.

Claim 7 (new): A rotatively operating tool according to claim 1, wherein said lower jaw is formed at least partially by a side face of said handle at said tip end thereof.

Claim 8 (new): A rotatively operating tool according to claim 1, further comprising a grip mounted near a base end of said handle.

Claim 9 (new): A rotatively operating tool according to claim 8, wherein said grip is a knob.

Claim 10 (new): A rotatively operating tool according to claim 1, further comprising an inner surface on said hook-shaped head of said lever, said inner surface contacting, during rotation of said rotatively operated member, an engaging surface of the operated portion of said rotatively operated member that resides intermediate said opposed engaging surfaces.

Claim 11 (new): A rotatively operating tool according to claim 1, further comprising a bearing plate extending from said intermediate portion of said lever for connection of said handle.

Claim 12 (new): A rotatively operating tool according to claim 11, further comprising a lever pin passing through a bore in said bearing plate and said handle.